GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2015
Beneficiaries under NFSA
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin;Karunakaran Shri P.;Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) in the country indicating the names of the States where it has not been implemented along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of beneficiary families covered and the funds spent under the NFSA, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has urged the States to submit the list of beneficiaries to be covered under the NFSA, if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has undertaken or proposes to undertake evaluation of the implementation status of NFSA and if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to amend the rules relating to NFSA; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the views of the States in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): Based on the preparedness and identification of beneficiaries reported by 12 States/Union Territories (UTs), foodgrains under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) are being allocated to them. Details of these States/UTs and identified beneficiaries reported by them are at Annexure. Under the Act, States/UTs are required to identify the eligible households and place their list in the public domain and display it prominently. Remaining 24 States/UTs have not completed all the preparatory measures required for implementation of the Act. Foodgrains allocation under existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is continuing in these States/UTs.

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Expenditure on subsidy involved in allocation of foodgrains under NFSA as well as existing TPDS is met out of budgetary allocation for food subsidy. During the years 2013-14 and 2014-15, food subsidy of Rs. 89,740 crore and 1,13,265.81 crore were released respectively. For the current year (2015-16), the allocation under food subsidy is Rs. 1,19,919 crore against which Rs. 41,225.21 crore has been released upto 16.07.2015.

Implementation of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. Status of implementation of the Act in the States/UTs where it has started was reviewed in a conference with their Food Secretaries held on 03.12.2014. Similarly, status of preparedness of States/UTs, where implementation of Act has not started, was reviewed in a conference with their Food Secretaries on 10.12.2014. In a recent meeting with Ministers of States/UTs, in charge of Food and Consumer Affairs, held on 07.07.2015, status of implementation of NFSA was also reviewed. During such meetings/conferences, the points raised by States/UTs are clarified and the need for early implementation of Act and necessary strengthening of TPDS in order to be able to successfully deliver entitlements in a rights-based approach under NFSA are emphasized.

(e) & (f): There is no proposal presently under consideration to amend the rules made by the Central Government under NFSA.
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